

Local dance students open for Oregon Ballet Theatre

ASTORIA — Families in Astoria will enjoy Oregon Ballet performances much closer to home when OBT2 — Oregon Ballet Theatre's junior company — performs for the first time in venues beyond the Portland Metro region.

The performance — 7 p.m. Saturday, June 2, at the Astoria High School Auditorium — opens with a performance featuring 30 local dance students from Astoria School of Ballet, Encore Dance Studio and Maddox Dance Studio. The short contemporary piece is choreographed by Robyn Ulibarri, one of Oregon Ballet

Theatre's teaching artists

OBT2 is led by Program Director Lisa Sundstrom, an Astoria native who received her early dance training from Jeanne Maddox Peterson.

For the show, OBT2 dancers will perform a collection of excerpts from iconic classical and contemporary ballets. The works will explore ballet's rich and varied history.

Established in 2015, OBT2 is composed of talented dancers, chosen from the most gifted students at the top levels of the Oregon Ballet Theatre School.

In addition to the OBT2

performance in Astoria, OBT's Educational Outreach department will spend time at Astoria's Lewis and Clark Elementary school, they will train teachers on how to capitalize on dance to fulfill school curricula, as well as work with hundreds of students, sharing ways that dance can become an important part of their lives.

General admission tickets, priced at \$7, are available at the door and in advance on eventbrite.com.

The Astoria High School Auditorium is located at 1001 W. Marine Drive.



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COAST WEEKEND EDITOR

ERICK BENDEL

CALENDAR COORDINATOR

REBECCA HERREN

CONTRIBUTORS

REBECCA HERREN

RYAN HUME

BARBARA LLOYD McMICHAEL

BRENNA VISSER

PATRICK WEBB

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New items for publication consideration must be submitted by 10 a.m. Tuesday, one week and two days before publication.

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Phone: 503.325.3211 Ext. 217
or 800.781.3211

Fax: 503.325.6573

E-mail: editor@coastweekend.com

Address: P.O. Box 210 •
949 Exchange St. Astoria,
OR 97103

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